GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5463
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2001
INDO NEPAL FOREIGN SECRETARIES MEET
A. VENKATESH NAIK

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any meeting has taken place between the Foreign Secretaries of India and Nepal recently;

(b) if so, the issues discussed; and

(c) the outcome thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) , (b) and (c) A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (A) TO (C) OF THE ANSWER TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 54 BE ANSWERED ON 29.08.2001 ON `INDO-NEPAL FOREIGN SECRETARIES MEET`

1. India-Nepal Foreign Secretary Level Talks were held on January 30 and 31, 2001 in Delhi.

2. The two sides reviewed the progress in implementing the understandings reached during the visit of the Prime Minister of Nepal to India in July/August, 2000 and agreed to expedite pending issues. In this context, it was reiterated that existing institutional mechanisms for dialogue and interaction between the two countries would be utilised fully in order to achieve quicker progress on issues under discussion.

3. The two sides reiterated their determination to expand and diversify their bilateral trade, economic co-operation and investment ties. It was agreed that operational difficulties in the implementation of the existing Agreements would be reviewed and addressed in a prompt and constructive manner. The two sides agreed to intensify their co-operation to control unauthorised trade.

4. The two sides also reiterated their determination to work closely and fight the scourge of terrorism. They renewed their commitment not to allow their respective territories to be used for activities directed against or prejudicial to the security of the other.

5. The two sides had a useful exchange of views on issues relating to the India-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship as directed by the two Prime Ministers. They discussed various aspects of the Treaty in a candid and open manner and agreed to continue their discussions keeping in mind the perceptions, concerns and interests of both sides and their close and friendly relations.

6. Other aspects of bilateral relations were also discussed, including, demarcation of the boundary, motor vehicular transportation and water resources.